 36. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said heat absorbing material is a phase change material.

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REMARKS

As noted above, this Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to the claims be entered before issuance of the next office action. In this regard, Claim 14 has been amended, and Claims 27-36 have been added. Claims 1-36 are now present in the application. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-12 and 19-23 have previously been indicated to be allowable, and remain in the application without change.

Independent method Claim 14 has been amended so as to more clearly set forth subject matter encompassed by the invention, but this modification is not intended to effect any significant change to the scope of Claim 14.

New apparatus Claims 27-36 have been added in order to recite subject matter encompassed by the invention in a manner different than claims which were previously presented in this application.

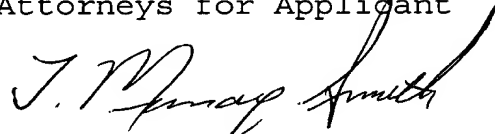
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Further and favorable consideration of the present application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that examination of the present application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (214) 953-6684.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date: March 6, 2003

Enclosures: Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims  
Amendment Transmittal Form  
Acknowledgment Post Card

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

14. (Twice Amended) A method of cooling, comprising the steps of:

transferring heat to a housing through an exterior surface on said housing, said housing having therein a chamber that contains a heat absorbing material;

distributing said heat within the material of said housing in a manner which reduces temperature gradients across said surface, including the step of using a heat pipe disposed within the material of said housing to facilitate [distribution] said distributing of said heat [in a manner which reduces temperature gradients across said surface] within the material of said housing; and

causing said heat absorbing material to absorb said heat.

27. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

a housing having a chamber therein, and having thereon an exterior surface through which heat can enter and leave said housing;

a heat absorbing material disposed within said chamber in said housing; and

means for distributing heat within the material of said housing in a manner which reduces temperature gradients across said surface, said means including a heat pipe disposed within the material of said housing.

28. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein said heat absorbing material is a phase change material.

29. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein said means includes said housing having a thermally conductive

portion with an opening therein, said opening being free of communication with said chamber, and wherein said heat pipe is disposed within said opening in said thermally conductive portion.

30. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein said means includes a plurality of further heat pipes, and includes said housing having a plurality of thermally conductive ribs which each extend within said chamber and which each have therein an opening; and wherein each said opening has therein a respective one of said heat pipes.

31. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein each said opening has a first end which communicates through a passageway in said housing with a location external to said housing.

32. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein each said opening has a second end which is remote from said first end and which opens outwardly through an outer surface of said housing.

33. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 27, including an antenna system which engages said surface on said housing and which generates heat that is transferred through said surface to said housing.

34. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 27, including in said chamber within said heat absorbing material a thermally conductive member made of a porous material.

35. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said housing and said thermally conductive member are made of

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a metal, and wherein said thermally conductive member is brazed to surfaces of said housing which define said chamber.

36. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said heat absorbing material is a phase change material.